

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 109042
ORIGIN HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 /036 R

DRAFTED BY DHEW/PHS/OASH/OIH/RDFISCHER
APPROVED BY OES/APT/BMP/WJWALSH,III
OES/APT/SEP:DCRAMER
EUR/SOV:SHUMPHREY

-----141922Z 003846 /64

R 131859Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 109042

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, TBIO, UR

SUBJECT: RENEWAL OF HEALTH AGREEMENT

1. DURING MEETING OF WHA IN GENEVA DRS. EHRlich AND VENEICTOV DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF SOME COMMEMORATIVE EVENT SURROUNDING AUTOMATIC RENEWAL OF THE TWO HEALTH AGREEMENTS. IN PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN HEW AND USSR EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, D.C., THE IDEA IS ALSO SEEN AS MERITORIOUS.

2. AT THIS TIME, WORKING PLAN INCLUDES SMALL MID-DAY RECEPTION IN US (EARLY EVENING IN USSR) AND PRESS CONFERENCES WITH JOINT EXCHANGE OF COMMUNIQUE ON TELEX. RECEPTION IN US WOULD BE HOSTED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH WITH VISIT ANTICIPATED BY SECRETARY CALIFANO. USSR AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN AND REPRESENTATION OF THE DEPARTMENT ALSO EXPECTED

3. ON SOVIET SIDE, WE WOULD ANTICIPATE MOH HOSTING SIMILAR
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RECEPTION WITH APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATION FROM EMBASSY, MOSCOW.

4. TENTATIVE PLANS WOULD FOCUS ON JUNE 14 OR 15 FOR DATES OF RECEPTION. FYI DR. ROBERT D. FISCHER, US EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, IS PLANNING TO BE IN MOSCOW JUNE 10-19 TO WORK ON FIVE YEAR REPORT OF HEALTH COOPERATION WITH MOH AND

WOULD POSSIBLY PARTICIPATE IN RECEPTION THERE.

5. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS EMBASSY OPINIONS ON THIS PLAN.
IF NO SERIOUS CONCERNS ARE FORESEEN, HEW/OIH REQUESTS
EMBASSY ALSO INITIATE CONTACT WITH USSR-MOH ON
THIS PLAN. FOLLOWING THIS INITIAL CONTACT, HEW/OIH WOULD
PLAN TO FINALIZE SOME RECEPTION PLANS ON TELEX WITH MOH,
ALSO KEEPING EMBASSY FULLY INFORMED THROUGH DEPARTMENTAL
CHANNELS. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, HEALTH, SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE109042
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PHS/OASH/OIH/RDFISCHER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770171-0963
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770560/aaaabzdu.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fea9a494-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN HEW
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2530399
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RENEWAL OF HEALTH AGREEMENT
TAGS: TGEN, TBIO, UR, US
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fea9a494-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009